

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION**

**Call to Order:** Chair Jim Shockley, on March 18, 2011 at 3:00 PM, in Room 335 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Sen. Jim Shockley, Chairman (R)  
Sen. Ron Arthun, Vice Chairman (R)  
Sen. Joe Balyeat (R)  
Sen. Anders Blewett (D)  
Sen. Carmine Mowbray (R)  
Sen. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Larry Jent (D)  
Sen. Llew Jones (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Nadine Spencer, Committee Secretary  
Dave Bohyer, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

##### **Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 397, 3/14/2011; SB 404, 3/14/2011; HB 142, 3/11/2011; HB 414, 3/11/2011; HB 431, 3/11/2011; HB 180, 3/14/2011

Executive Action: HB 142, Be Concurred In; SB 404, Be Tabled

**HEARING ON SB 404**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:00:08 Sen. Anders Blewett (D), SD 11, opened the hearing on SB 404, Provide for constitutional analysis of bill draft requests.

[EXHIBIT\(sts61a01\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:03:47 Tim Ravndal, Lewis and Clark Conservative Tea Party Group

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:05:57 Sen. Blewett

**Discussion:**

00:06:48 Sen. Balyeat

00:07:22 Sen. Blewett

**HEARING ON HB 142**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:08:03 Rep. Diane Sands (D), HD 95, opened the hearing on HB 142, Require interim committees review of reports and advisory councils for sunset.

[EXHIBIT\(sts61a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(sts61a03\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:13:24 Rep. Sands

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 142**

00:13:54     **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Balyeat moved that **HB 142 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Jent and Sen. Jones voted by proxy. Sen. Jent will carry the bill.

**HEARING ON HB 431**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:15:01     Rep. Keith Regier (R), HD 5, opened the hearing on HB 431, Eliminate state election day as a legal holiday.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:19:20     Sheryl Wood, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)  
00:21:33     Roger Nummerdor

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:22:28     Tom Schneider, Montana Public Employees Association (MPEA)  
00:25:14     J. C. Weingartner, MEA-MFT

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:27:18     Sen. Balyeat  
00:29:43     Sheryl Wood, MACo  
00:30:29     Sen. Balyeat  
00:31:00     Rep. Regier  
00:31:37     Sen. Mowbray  
00:32:24     Tom Schneider, MPEA  
00:33:41     Sen. Windy Boy  
00:34:52     Sheryl Wood  
00:35:22     Sen. Windy Boy

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:35:35     Rep. Regier

**HEARING ON HB 180**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:36:24     Rep. Champ Edmunds (R), HD 100, opened the hearing on HB 180, Revise close of voter registration.

**EXHIBIT**(sts61a04)

**EXHIBIT**(sts61a05)

**EXHIBIT(sts61a06)**

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:39:34 Brad Johnson, former Montana Secretary of State  
 00:44:31 Lee Clemmensen  
 00:46:58 Lyn Hellegaard  
 00:49:04 Roger Nummerdor  
 00:50:07 Tim Ravndal

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:50:30 Linda McCulloch, Montana Secretary of State

**EXHIBIT(sts61a07)**

**EXHIBIT(sts61a08)**

00:52:50 Travis Suzuki, student at the University of Montana  
 00:53:59 Beth Brennenman, Disability Rights Montana (DRM)

**EXHIBIT(sts61a09)**

00:54:56 Eric Stern, Governor's Office  
 00:56:05 Annie Glover, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes  
 00:56:46 Olivia Riutta, Montana Women Vote (MWV)

**EXHIBIT(sts61a10)**

00:58:22 Sen. Jent entered the hearing.  
 00:58:53 Bob Maffit  
 00:59:53 Gladys Hardin, League of Women Voters of Montana (LWVMT)  
 01:00:24 Chris Cavazos, Montana State AFL-CIO  
 01:00:43 Joy Bruck, AARP Montana

**EXHIBIT(sts61a11)**

01:00:57 Kryss Kuntz, Montana Independent Living Project (MILP)  
 01:01:22 Jeanne Sawigney, Montana Conservation Voters Education Fund (MCVEF)  
 01:01:46 J. C. Weingartner, MEA-MFT  
 01:02:05 Shelbi Dantic, Montana Public Interest Research Group (MontPIRG)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:02:53 Sen. Windy Boy  
 01:03:17 Chris Cavazos  
 01:03:51 Sen. Mowbray  
 01:05:00 Linda McCulloch  
 01:05:14 Sen. Mowbray  
 01:06:10 Shelbi Dantic (MontPIRG)  
 01:06:27 Sen. Balyeat  
 01:08:25 Lee Clemmensen  
 01:09:10 Sen. Balyeat  
 01:12:22 Linda McCulloch  
 01:13:38 Chairman Shockley  
 01:13:50 Linda McCulloch

01:14:00 Sen. Balyeat  
01:14:19 Linda McCulloch  
01:14:47 Sen. Blewett  
01:15:21 Brad Johnson  
01:17:29 Sen. Jent  
01:19:03 Linda McCulloch  
01:19:14 Sen. Windy Boy  
01:19:44 Linda McCulloch  
01:19:53 Sen. Windy Boy  
01:20:29 Brad Johnson  
01:21:10 Sen. Balyeat  
01:22:45 Linda McCulloch  
01:22:50 Sen. Balyeat  
01:23:31 Brad Johnson

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:24:59 Rep. Edmunds

**HEARING ON HB 414**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:26:56 Rep. Bill Harris (R), HD 30, opened the hearing on HB 414, Provide for federal mandate accountability.

[EXHIBIT](#)(sts61a12)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:29:03 Tim Ravndal  
01:31:04 Patrick McCain

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

01:31:59 Amy Sassano, Governor's Office

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:32:24 Sen. Windy Boy  
01:32:48 Amy Sassano  
01:34:07 Sen. Windy Boy  
01:34:17 Amy Sassano  
01:34:43 Chairman Shockley  
01:35:25 Rep. Harris

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:35:34 Rep. Harris

**HEARING ON SB 397**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:39:03 Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D), SD 41, opened the hearing on SB 397, Increase authority of commissioner of political practices for noncompliance.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:42:02 Drew Geiger, Montana League of Women Voters (LWVMT)

01:42:39 Janet Ellis

01:44:04 Mary Baker, Commissioner of Political Practices

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:45:16 Bob Faw

01:46:15 Tim Ravndal

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:47:11 Sen. Windy Boy

01:47:37 Mary Baker

01:48:01 Sen. Windy Boy

01:48:53 Sen. Kaufmann

**EXHIBIT**(sts61a13)

01:50:36 Sen. Balyeat

01:51:16 Sen. Kaufmann

01:51:56 Chairman Shockley

01:52:00 Sen. Kaufmann

01:52:04 Sen. Windy Boy

01:52:11 Sen. Balyeat

01:54:10 Sen. Kaufmann

01:55:28 Mary Baker

01:56:30 Sen. Balyeat

01:56:39 Sen. Mowbray

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:57:04 Sen. Kaufmann

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 404**

01:58:22     **Motion:** Sen. Blewett moved that **SB 404 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

01:58:32     Sen. Blewett

01:59:13     Chairman Shockley

01:59:35     Sen. Blewett

02:00:07     Sen. Windy Boy left the hearing.

02:00:25     Chairman Shockley

02:00:33     Sen. Blewett

02:00:50     Chairman Shockley

02:01:05     Sen. Balyeat

02:02:07     Sen. Blewett

02:03:04     **Vote:** Motion failed 3-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Blewett, Sen. Jent and Sen. Windy Boy voting aye. Sen. Jones voted by proxy.

02:03:52     **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Balyeat moved to **REVERSE THE VOTE AND TABLE THE BILL.** Without objection from the committee SB 404 was tabled.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 5:05 p.m.

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Nadine Spencer, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([sts61aad.pdf](#))**